

Report Title	Appointments to Outside Bodies 2021		
Committee	Strategy and Resources Committee		
Committee Date	5 July 2021		
Committee Chair	Councillor Ruth Dombey		
Lead Member	Councillor Marian James, Lead Member for the Voluntary Sector		
Report From	Richard Simpson, Strategic Director of Resources		
Report Author(s)	Matthew Stickley, Committee Services Manager		
Ward(s) Affected	All Wards		
Ambitious for Sutton priorities	Being Active Citizens Making Informed Choices		
Open/Exempt	Open		
Signed		Date	23 June 2021

1 Summary

- 1.1 With partnership and community working a key element in delivering the Ambitious for Sutton priorities for the borough, this report recommends appointments to various outside bodies to further embed working with residents and community groups.

2 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 To agree the appointments to the outside bodies as set out at Appendix A.
- 2.2 To delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to authorise the appointments of named representatives which arise as a result of an in-year vacancy.

3 Background and Key Information

- 3.1 Outside bodies are external organisations, with separate governance structures, which have requested that the council appoint a representative to them. Acting as a link between the council's activities and that of the organisation, the appointee ensures that individuals, families, and communities are able to access a diverse range of information, advice and guidance to make informed choices and help sustain change within the borough.
- 3.2 Such appointments also allow the council to work together with local organisations in Sutton to provide effective services as well as promote greater economic growth, local resilience and social wellbeing.
- 3.3 Appointments to outside bodies can vary: appointees may act as a company director, the trustee of a charity, or as a member of an organisation's management committee. Given such appointments are often one of several roles an individual may hold, guidance and support from council officers, including the Monitoring Officer where questions of conflicts of interest arise, is provided.
- 3.4 As previously agreed by the Strategy and Resources Committee, a full review of appointments will take place every four years. The next full review will be made in 2023.
- 3.5 As shown in Appendix A, changes have been made to the appointments to the following bodies:

Friends of Whitehall

As agreed at their 2020 Annual General Meeting, The Friends of Whitehall Charity will come to an end. They continue to operate with a skeleton committee but are not requesting councillor representation.

Sutton Primary Care Commissioning Committee

The Sutton Primary Care Commissioning Committee is no longer in existence.

Surrey Countryside Partnerships

In the past, the Surrey Countryside Partnerships has had two council representatives: one for its board; and one for its liaison group. The organisation has confirmed that it only requires one representative for its board going forward.

Beddington Liaison Group

Along with the Beddington Community Fund and Conservation and Access Management Committee, the Beddington Liaison Group is recommended for appointment as an outside body for the 2021-22 municipal year. The proposed appointments are included within Appendix A.

4 Benefits to Sutton and its Residents

- 4.1 The outside bodies make up a diverse range of organisations delivering important statutory and non-statutory services to Sutton residents. Appointing representatives allows the council, particularly its elected members, to remain at the forefront of community leadership.
- 4.2 Having such appointments, especially where there is alignment between the council's corporate plan and an organisation's strategic goals, is important to foster and embed partnership and community working.
- 4.3 Such appointments also allow the Council to work together with local organisations in Sutton to provide effective services, support decision making and promote greater economic growth, local resilience and social wellbeing.

5 Implications

- 5.1 The appointment of representatives to outside bodies is at the discretion of the Strategy and Resources Committee. As such, the committee may decline to make such appointments or request either further or fewer reviews of appointments as it sees fit. However, it is recommended that a summary review is retained on an annual basis, following the annual meeting of Council, as this allows councillors to confirm their committee appointments prior to their appointments to outside bodies.

6 Finance and Legal Commentary

Finance Comment

- 6.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. Appointees who are either councillors or senior officers of the Council will need to consider declaring these positions as related parties.

Legal Comment

- 6.2 There are no specific implications arising from the report. It is important for councillors appointed to outside bodies to be clear about the nature of the appointment, including whether they have a decision-making role or not. Different duties and responsibilities apply depending on the councillor's role on the outside body and, in particular, councillors need to be aware of the potential for conflicts of interest to arise.
- 6.3 Guidance has been published by the Monitoring Officer to assist members who serve on outside bodies.

Legal Risks

- 6.4 There are no specific risks arising from this report.

7 Appendices and Background Documents7.1 Appendices

Appendix Letter	Appendix Title
A	Table of Appointments to Outside Bodies 2021

7.2 Background Documents

Date of Expiry	Background Document
N/A	N/A

8 Consultations

Consultees	Yes/No	Officer	Date of Comments
Finance	Yes	Victoria Goddard Assistant Director of Finance	22/06/2021
Legal	Yes	Tracy Swan Head of Law, Property, Planning and Employment	16/06/2021
Others	No	N/A	N/A
EQIA	No	N/A	N/A